



**YORKSHIRE COW**

and attained the production of sheep and cat-  
"ring-streaked, spotted and speckled" at place.  
they set about producing those animals that were  
to maturity early, and produced vastly more from  
the same amount of rearing in the North.  
that fat was an element of favor in the know-  
climate, they endeavored to obtain animals with  
tendency to secrete it in large quantities. In  
der to do this, they observed the qualities indi-  
cative of these propensities; and knowing that  
as true in physiology as in mathematics, that fat  
produces life, they selected and bred from those  
until they stamped their qualities permanently  
invariably and indelibly on the race. With the  
they managed to combine asymmetry of form.

[Farmer's Magazine]

**TO BOIL POTATOES MEALY.** When the wa-  
ter nearly boils, pour it out and put in cold  
water: it makes them mealy without crack-  
ing.





R. EATON, Proprietor. E. HOLMES, Editor.

AUGUSTA:  
THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 19, 1882.

## ELECTRICITY AS A VITAL AND REMEDIAL AGENT.

We are not among those who would adopt every new theory that is not clearly supported by facts, neither do we belong to that class that would shut our eyes and our ears to every new suggestion, or throw away, unexamined, every new theory, though it be based only on probabilities. We are all of us groping our way along the pathway of knowledge, gathering here and there a truth, and adding it to the general stock, and although many of these truths come to us singly, and isolated, as it were, from others, yet when these single truths become arranged, and classified, and united, according to their several bearings and relations, they form what should be called science, and constitute safe guides in further researches and investigations. No man, no one generation ever has, or ever can, or ever will look through all nature at once. Hence the accumulation of knowledge must ever be progressive, and will continue thus accumulating forever. The science of electricity is an evidence of the progressive steps whereby truths, once discovered singly and alone, become, by being interwoven with those before known, and those discovered afterwards, the foundation of scientific truth and a safe guide to future explorers. Any man of middle age can look back to his early years, and within his own knowledge, compare what is known now in regard to it and what was known then, and he can measure the advancement of knowledge in regard to this alone.

Much as has already been ascertained in regard to this subtle but mighty agent, it is nothing to what will be discovered by explorers in this matter in future. It is already proved to be an almost omnipresent and essential agent in the universe. It is busy in every operation of Nature. It trembles in the leaf and lifts in the earthquake. It glitters in the dew drop and speaks in the thunder. It kindles our fires and heaves in the ocean. It moves and animates the most delicate nerve and crushes in the lightning. It is above us, and around us, and within us. How, then, can it be otherwise than one of the vital agents of God, by which the complicated machinery of our bodies, so "wonderfully and fearfully made," should be sustained in its operations? Causes inexplicable at present may bring about a diminution of it, and health become endangered, or it may induce a surplus and health be also endangered. We have seen the time in our own individual case, when in ill health, that a sudden noise, as when one coughing or sneezing near by, or the sudden shutting of a door, would send a shock tingling along through the frame to the finger's ends, as distinct as from a galvanic battery. We have seen many instances, when formerly in practice, in patients under our care, where there was a clear and unequivocal disturbance of the equilibrium of electricity in the system, but whether it was the cause or effect of disease, we were never perfectly satisfied. Hence we have never been so sanguine and enthusiastic in the use of it as a remedial agent, nor so faithless as many who discard its use altogether. The New York Farmer & Mechanic quotes the following as a recapitulation of discoveries made by Mr. Ayr, of Scotland, on the "Influence of variation of electrical tension as a cause of disease." Some of our readers will read them with interest.

1. That heat and electricity are identical, as the one can be converted into the other.
2. That a large quantity of electricity surrounds every primary constituent of matter, especially that form of matter which constitutes the gaseous bodies.
3. That animal heat is supported by the electricity liberated from the primary constituents of matter during the processes of respiration, digestion, and assimilation.
4. That electricity is evolved during these processes on the same principle as that which is evolved during the action of a galvanic arrangement.
5. That electricity and nervous power are analogous, if not identical; as the action of the one can be successfully substituted for the other.
6. That the majority of diseases are caused either by the sudden abstraction or slow addition of electricity from the body.
7. That a low state of electric tension on the surface of the earth, produced either by the operation of evaporation or some occult movement in the great internal currents of the earth, is the remote cause of epidemic and pestilential diseases.
8. That occasional and ordinary diseases are produced by the sudden abstraction or slow addition of electricity from the body, or its undue elimination during the vital processes.
9. That since electricity is so essential to the integrity of the vital operations, it is indispensable that measures be taken to promote its evolution and prevent over-irradiation.
10. That electricity is the source of vitality in vegetable life.
11. That electricity is attracted by the fibres of the roots of the plants; and by the instrumentality of the electric fluid does the plant extract its constituents from the soil.
12. That vegetables of rapid growth require a large supply of electricity to secure their perfection and completion; and the potato is a plant of this kind.
13. That the disease of the potato was produced by want of nutrition.
14. That want of nutrition arose from defective electric agency.
15. That the cause of the deficiency of this agency was the shattering influences which produced low tension of electricity.

## EDITOR'S TABLE.

**PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.** A very pleasing and instructive book has just been published by Simonton & Gower of this city, entitled "Pictorial History of the United States of America, from the earliest discoveries in the tenth century, to the present time; by R. Thomas, A. M." This work is a thick 8vo, of more than 800 pages, and contains 200 illustrations. The author has touched upon all the incidents of any importance in our history, and although he has not gone into lengthy and minute details, has nevertheless made a very interesting and useful book, and the publishers have got it up in good form and style. It is a useful book for the young to study and the old to refer to, and would do good service in every house.

**CREDIT OMITTED.** The article on our last headed, "Is farming in New England profitable?" should have been credited to the New England Farmer. The proper credit was inadvertently omitted by the compositor.

**LECTURE IN SIDNEY.** We are requested to say that Mr. Drew's lecture on the "World's Fair," which was to have been delivered in Sidney, on Monday evening last, is, on account of the storm, postponed to Friday evening, February 20th.

## COVERING IRON WITH ZINC AND SILVER.

A friend has written to us making inquiries respecting the mode of zincing and silvering iron. When we have no practical knowledge of information on any subject respecting which information is asked, the best thing we can do is to give such information as we can find in the best authors, or from the best living operators in such things. The practice of covering iron with zinc is much followed at the present day, when many articles are covered with this substance in order to prevent their rusting when in use. The usual method, we believe, is to steep the iron after being made clean, in a bath of zinc. When done in this way, the iron is sometimes changed by the heat, and the zinc which adheres to the iron is sometimes impure. A better way, and one which we believe is coming into use, is to coat the iron by the means of the electro-galvanic battery. In order to do this, a solution of zinc, of the salts of zinc, say the sulphate of zinc, (white vitriol), is used, and the iron plunged in, and a connection made with it and the battery in the usual way. This process is similar to that used in gilding or silvering with the galvanic battery, and is now so common that it is easily done. The zinc thus coated on is in such case pure, and the iron is not changed. The same mode is adopted in coating iron with silver.

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**THE AUGUSTA DRAMATIC CLUB.** This is an association of young persons in this city, who have united for the purpose of mutual instruction and improvement in literature and the art of speaking. Their labors consist in writing, declamation, and performing dramatic pieces. They gave an exhibition on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of last week, at Winthrop Hall. The exercises consisted, on Tuesday evening, of an address, by J. D. Myrick, the performance of "Damon and Pythias," and also the laughable farce of "Monsieur Tonson," as an afterpiece. The address was on "Literature," and was chaste in style, and clear in its reasoning and deductions, but rather too long for an opening performance, when so much was to be done during the remainder of the evening. The drama of "Damon and Pythias" was well performed. The young gentlemen and ladies evinced a just conception of their several parts, and exhibited a talent of expression and action which would do credit to older performers. Not that, by further practice, their action could not be improved, but that, for young performers, self taught in the histrionic art, it was much above the average, and gave abundant satisfaction to the audience. The lively farce of "Monsieur Tonson" was well sustained in all its parts. The nervous and excitable Frenchman, the polite and obsequious housekeeper, the pensive Adolphe, the disconsolate Thompson in contrast with the jovial Rusty, the lady-like Mrs. Thompson, the ardent and love-smitten Jack Ardoury, the rowdyish Tom King, and the Watchman who cheer the hour of the night, were all "done up brown," and the audience, from pit to gallery, went home pleased with the performance, and satisfied with their evening's entertainment.

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## EXTRACTS FROM A CALIFORNIA LETTER.

We give below some extracts from a letter from Gen. Simons, of Waterville, to a gentleman in this city.

SACRAMENTO CITY, CAL.,  
Dec. 30, 1851.

"I left home on the 24th of September, and arrived here not till the 19th of November. The passage was long, and made particularly tedious by my having the Panama fever. I was attacked with this most miserable disease the day after leaving Panama, and was quite sick all the way up, being 34 days from that place. I arrived here weak, and rather sick, but have been gradually gaining ever since. I am now pretty well, and shall go to mining pretty soon."

"Money is not easily obtained here, at this time. There are plenty of Maine men here that would be glad to get steady employ, at \$2 a day. A large portion of our men from Maine arrive here sick, or have a sick spell after they arrive. I think most of the accounts given of the soil, climate, &c., have been rather exaggerated. My opinion of the country is not very favorable. I see too many haggard faces, and too many shaking with the ague, to call this one of the healthiest places in the world, and as to the chances of making money, not more than one in four makes anything, or at least they do not save anything. I never saw so many destitute as there are here; very many in consequence of imprudence, but I think the larger part on account of sickness, brought on by imprudence."

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## RD,

produced fearful and fatal consequence. The explosion broke through, killing one man, and wounding eight, some mortally. Of the eleven men at work on the East side, and two escaped unhurt.

in attempting to make a harbor, went ashore near New McKean, R. R. The cargo was mostly saved. Vessel supposed to be a total loss.

(Bath Tribune.

**INDIAN Cakes.** Boil some corn meal as usual, for five or six hours; then mix it with a batter, and add some wheat flour to make the cake hold together. Bake them evenly. Take two or three eggs, with salt to season; bake on the griddle till brown.

AUGUST, 1891. 1552.

**J. B. FILEBROWNS**  
**DEAN T. LIST**

**OPPOSITE WINTHROP HOUSE**  
**Winthrop, Maine.**

**THE SUNNY SIDE; or the Country**  
With a beautiful story—it ought to be for every boy.  
By **JOHN W. LESTER.**

**BELTING LEATHER** for sale, wholesale and  
Sept. 1, 1891. 36 **NEED & BR**

1951. The Academy is having recently taught on the  
The Teachers, having been largely located on the  
astronomy. The supervisory system of first  
English Educational. Second, to make them  
Students Masters of their Business. Nothing  
Students. There is a Belating Club composed  
cultivating those faculties are essential to the  
and seems in Pennsylvania will be taught.

school. He would wish to caution one of the traders in telling customers that these Goods were removed from his Store, which is false. Each of these Goods is NEW, and will be sold at LESS PRICES than they can sell OLD GOODS, and at GREATER BARGAINS, at

**S. T. GUSHEE'S New Store, Gardner.**  
Gardner, Jan. 20, 1852. tw

**MAINE AGRICULTURAL**  
**WARE HOUSE AND SEED STORE,**  
Market Square, Portland.

**A**LL kinds of Farming Tools; Machinery, Grass, Garden, and Flower Seeds; Fruit and Ornamental Trees; Woolen Ware, &c., &c., are offered at the lowest Boston

collaborative and...  
...as the



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[illegible]

and helplessness. At length, ju